

SENATE BILL 655

J3, O2

0lr3148
CF HB 384

By: **Senator Lenett**

Introduced and read first time: February 5, 2010

Assigned to: Finance

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Task Force to Study Financial Matters Relating to Long-Term Care Facilities**
3 **- Extension**

4 FOR the purpose of extending the termination date of the Task Force to Study
5 Financial Matters Relating to Long-Term Care Facilities; altering certain dates
6 by which certain reports are required to be submitted; and generally relating to
7 the Task Force to Study Financial Matters Relating to Long-Term Care
8 Facilities.

9 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
10 Chapter 672 of the Acts of the General Assembly of 2008
11 Section 1 and 2

12 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
13 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

14 **Chapter 672 of the Acts of 2008**

15 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
16 MARYLAND, That:

17 (a) There is a Task Force to Study Financial Matters Relating to Long-Term
18 Care Facilities.

19 (b) The Task Force consists of the following members:

20 (1) One member of the Senate of Maryland, appointed by the
21 President of the Senate;

22 (2) One member of the House of Delegates, appointed by the Speaker
23 of the House;

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



- 1 (3) The Attorney General, or the Attorney General’s designee;
- 2 (4) The Secretary of Aging, or the Secretary’s designee;
- 3 (5) The Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene, or the Secretary’s
4 designee;
- 5 (6) The Secretary of Disabilities, or the Secretary’s designee;
- 6 (7) The Executive Director of the Maryland Health Care Commission,
7 or the Executive Director’s designee; and
- 8 (8) The following members, appointed by the Governor:
- 9 (i) A practicing Maryland attorney who has expertise in health
10 care and has represented nursing homes in Maryland;
- 11 (ii) One representative of each of the following providers:
- 12 1. Continuing care retirement community;
- 13 2. Independently owned nursing facility;
- 14 3. Nonprofit nursing facility;
- 15 4. Direct care nursing home workers; and
- 16 5. Entity that owns three or more nursing facilities; and
- 17 (iii) One representative of each of the following organizations:
- 18 1. Health Facilities Association of Maryland;
- 19 2. Mid–Atlantic Lifespan;
- 20 3. AARP;
- 21 4. Alzheimer’s Association;
- 22 5. United Seniors of Maryland;
- 23 6. A financial institution that specializes in health care
24 financing; and
- 25 7. Voices for Quality Care.

1 (c) The Senate member and the House of Delegates member shall serve as
2 cochairs.

3 (d) The Department of Legislative Services shall provide staff for the Task
4 Force.

5 (e) A member of the Task Force may not receive compensation for serving as
6 a member of the Task Force but is entitled to reimbursement for expenses under the
7 Standard State Travel Regulations, as provided in the State budget.

8 (f) The Task Force shall study financial matters relating to long-term care
9 facilities, including:

10 (1) Whether there are trends in ownership of long-term care facilities
11 in Maryland in comparison to any national trends regarding long-term care facility
12 ownership;

13 (2) Whether any trends in long-term care facility ownership impact
14 the quality of care offered to residents of long-term care facilities;

15 (3) Whether the Department of Health and Mental Hygiene should
16 assert limitations or restrictions on certain types of ownership of long-term care
17 facilities;

18 (4) Whether current laws governing ownership of long-term care
19 facilities should be amended;

20 (5) Whether long-term care facilities should be required to have
21 liability insurance; and

22 (6) Funding mechanisms for implementing recommendations of the
23 Task Force that would require a State agency or division to acquire specific resources
24 or expertise to address issues raised by the Task Force.

25 (g) (1) On or before July 1, ~~[2009]~~ **2011**, the Task Force shall submit an
26 interim report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance
27 with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly.

28 (2) On or before June 1, ~~[2010]~~ **2012**, the Task Force shall submit a
29 final report of its findings and recommendations to the Governor and, in accordance
30 with § 2-1246 of the State Government Article, the General Assembly.

31 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
32 July 1, 2008. It shall remain effective for a period of ~~[2]~~ **4** years and, at the end of June
33 30, ~~[2010]~~ **2012**, with no further action required by the General Assembly, this Act
34 shall be abrogated and of no further force and effect.

1 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
2 June 1, 2010.